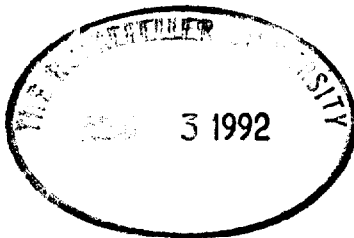


University of Cincinnati
Medical Center



Department of Environmental Health

Office of the Director

3223 Eden Avenue
Cincinnati, Ohio 45267-0056
Phone (513) 558-5701
FAX (513) 558-1756

July 28, 1992

Dr. Joshua Lederberg
Rockefeller University
1230 York Avenue
New York, NY 10021

Dear Josh:

I've been wondering for some time whether there isn't a sounder way to formulate cleanup standards for carcinogens in hazardous waste sites than the 10^{-6} standard whose justification, so far as I know, is straight out of P.G. Wodehouse (*Life at Blandings*, "She's a girl in a million.").

The enclosed paper utilizes the credibility of the carcinogen risk assessment for a given agent as the basis for its risk-based standard. The degree of credibility is related linearly to the likelihood of a zero carcinogen effect with the assumption that 100% credibility warrants a zero incremental cancer risk. The unanticipated outcome of the approach is that the risk standards are far less stringent than 10^{-6} , because the credibility of the risk assessments never gets sufficiently high.

I'd appreciate your letting me know what you think about the palatability of the ideas and whatever other comments you might wish to make about the paper.

Best regards

Roy E. Albert, M.D.
Professor & Chairman